Message Text

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PAGE 01 GABORO 02831 080910Z ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11 IO-13 ACDA-12 /089 W

-----011451 091008Z /12

R 080726Z SEP 78
FM AMEMBASSY GABORONE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3093
INFO AMEMBASSY DARESSALAAM
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

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E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: MOPS, RH, BC

SUBJECT: BOTSWANA/RHODESIA CLASH AT KAZUNGULA

1. PRESIDENT'S OFFICE RELEASED FOLLOWING STATEMENT SEPTEMBER
6: QUOTE: AT ABOUT 1:00 THIS AFTERNOON THE BDF OBSERVATION POINT
AT KAZUNGULA SAW A CONTINGENT OF RHODESIAN REBEL FORCES ADVANCING FROM THE RHODESIAN SIDE TOWARDS THE BOTSWANA BORDER IN LANDROVERS AND OTHER MILITARY VEHICLES. THE REBEL FORCES THEN TOOK
POSITIONS CLOSE TO THE BORDER FENCE AND STARTED FIRING AT BDF
POSITIONS ON THE BOTSWANA SIDE. THE BDF RETURNED FIRE AND
SHOOTING CONTINUED FOR ABOUT FORTY MINUTES. THERE WERE NO
CASUALITIES ON THE BOTSWANA SIDE. UNQUOTE.

2. COMMENT: PRESIDENT'S OFFICE WAS ABLE TO FURNISH NO FURTHER INFORMA

TION IN RESPONSE TO EMBASSY INQUIRY. INCIDENT IS UNUSUAL IN THAT GOB ALLEGES IT INVOLVED ADVANCE OF COLUMN OF MILITARY VEHICLES RATHER THAN SIMPLE EXCHANGE OF FIRE FROM FIXED INSTALLATIONS. FOLLOWING AS IT DOES ON THE AIR RHODESIA CRASH, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THIS INCIDENT MAY OCCASION MORE THAN THE USUAL INCREASE IN TENSION ALONG RHODESIA/BOTSWANA BORDER. NORLAND

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 jan 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: BORDER INCIDENTS, COMBAT OPERATIONS

Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 08 sep 1978 Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960 Decaption Note: Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW

Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014 Disposition Event: Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978GABORO02831
Document Source: CORE

Document Unique ID: 00 Drafter: n/a

Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: N/A Errors: N/A

Film Number: D780367-0889 Format: TEL From: GABORONE

Handling Restrictions: n/a Image Path:

ISecure: 1

Expiration:

Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780990/aaaacwex.tel

Line Count: 58 Litigation Code IDs: Litigation Codes:

Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM

Message ID: 85b8de55-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Office: ACTION AF

Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE Original Handling Restrictions: n/a Original Previous Classification: n/a Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a

Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Reference: n/a Retention: 0

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Content Flags:

Review Date: 26 apr 2005 Review Event: Review Exemptions: n/a **Review Media Identifier:** Review Release Date: n/a

Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

SAS ID: 1510245 Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: BOTSWANA/RHODESIA CLASH AT KAZUNGULA

TAGS: MOPS, PBOR, RH, BC

To: STATE Type: TE

vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/85b8de55-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Review Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

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